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THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY  
FOR 1876,  
With which is incorporated  
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

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year of its existence, is

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In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1876" contains a

CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH

OF A

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG,  
THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF  
SHANGHAI.

A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the  
NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT  
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HONGKONG;

besides other local information and state  
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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 31, 1876.

The fame of German military skill and  
prowess has evidently reached the Chinese  
Government. According to a Berlin tele-  
gram to a home paper, seven Chinese officers  
arrived in the capital of Germany bearing a  
request from the Peking Government that  
they might be allowed to serve in the Prus-  
sian army, as some Japanese officers did  
a short time since, in order to become ac-  
quainted with the German military system.  
Kaiser William has acceded to the request,  
and they will, in addition to serving with the  
regiments, attend a course at the Military  
Academy. They have certainly gone to a  
first-rate school in which to learn the art  
of war, and if they make good use of their  
time and opportunity will return much  
wiser and more capable officers. Clearly  
the Chinese are anxious to make progress  
in one direction, though it is to be feared in  
one only. Li Hung-chang is, no doubt, the  
originator of this movement. He is desirous  
of placing the Chinese forces on a footing  
with those of European Powers, and to  
attain this end would hesitate at no expense.  
Had his sovereign power, a good deal more  
would probably be done in this direction,  
but at present his energies are somewhat  
cramped. Still it cannot be denied that he  
has effected a great improvement in a portion  
of the army. Whether the improvement is  
worth the cost, which has been very heavy,  
is another question. The Chinese armaments  
have been strengthened and improved to a  
degree sufficient to render the Government  
rather more insolent and presuming in its  
bearing towards foreign, but not capable  
of coping with any European army. Chinese  
officials may fondly imagine that with their  
new arms and equipments they would in the  
event of a war be able to present a very  
formidable appearance, but they would soon  
find how far afield they had been carried  
by their hubris and pride.

Now, comparatively, of the troops  
in the case of Holman & Hayes, we  
know how to use their new guns properly, and  
few still have any idea of keeping them in  
good condition. At a recent review at Ningpo,  
a foreign observer noticed that the majority  
of the soldiers were unsupplied with ramrods  
in their old rifles, and had to shake in the  
charge by dropping the butt on the ground.  
So it is throughout. There is no comple-  
tions in their equipment, something has  
been neglected in every change made. It  
will be a long time we should imagine  
before a really formidable Chinese army  
can be placed in the field. In former wars  
with England, the Chinese troops were al-  
most without exception beneath contempt.  
A mob of undisciplined braves, mostly want-  
ing in courage and unable for a moment to  
face their foe, they were no sooner driven  
from behind their fortifications than they  
took on an ignominious flight. The Tartars,  
it is true, behaved somewhat better, but they  
were never in any sense equal to an en-  
counter with an inferior number of Euro-  
peans. Discipline, of course, does some-  
thing towards making good fighting material  
out of the Chinese, but their system is bad,  
and the officers are, for the most part, ut-  
terly ignorant of the art of war, incapable  
of enforcing order in the ranks, and most im-  
patient of restraint themselves. They have  
much to learn before they will be in a position  
to face Western armies, whatever they  
may think on the subject. The Dragon is a  
very敷 (soft) and powerless beast at present,  
and will require a great deal of physie to re-  
habilitate him.

As will be seen by a translation headed "The  
First Railway in China" and published in  
another column, the Moscow News has a corre-  
spondent in Shanghai. The fact in itself is  
not very surprising, but the good people of  
the Model Settlement will be somewhat  
amazed to read the result of the "notes"  
this Moscovite "child" has taken. Writing on  
the 27th March, he gives an account of  
"a railway eleven English miles in length  
which has just been finished and now connects  
Shanghai with the village of Oussoon." Here  
in Hongkong we received intimation of  
the opening of a section of the line  
on the 30th June. But this voracious  
correspondent states as a fact, so far  
back as March, "Already 4,000 Chinese are  
travelling daily between Oussoon and Shanghai  
—for the most part by the third-class, at  
a charge of only five cents for the journey."  
There are other bits of information in  
this peculiar communication equally new  
to foreigners in China and about equally  
true. Possibly this correspondent will  
prescient eyes, foresees that the line will be  
open before he can address another of his  
valuable letters to the Moscow journal, and  
therefore wrote what he fancied would happen  
in the hope of being able to keep pace  
with events. Unfortunately, however, the  
date attached to his communication reveals  
the fact that he has been romancing, and  
makes it appear slightly questionable whether  
he has ever set foot in Shanghai at all. It is  
hard to say whether the *Pali Mall Gazette*,  
in translating this strange letter to its  
Russian contemporary, believed in its accuracy  
or regarded it as a great joke. It surely  
must have been aware that, had the Shanghai  
and Woosung Railway been opened to traffic  
at the date mentioned, information of the  
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any doubt of the authenticity of the  
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has not even taken the trouble to correct the  
mis-spelling of some of the names of places.  
It would have rendered the article more  
intelligible to its readers, perhaps, if it altered  
Oussoon to Woosung and Van Poo to Hwang-  
poo. But it is to be feared that, with the  
general ignorance of the home papers  
on all matters connected with China, he  
did not lack with his inferiority.

The prosecutor produced two witnesses  
to speak in his favor, but they only corroborated  
the prisoner's statement. The prisoners  
were all decided successes, and the accompaniment  
was played by Mr. Clapton with dash and  
spirit, and his acting and singing were both excellent.  
He has a capital voice, and never fails to make the most of a comic situation.  
He elicited frequent rounds of laughter by his  
clever acting. Mr. Macnamara was a most  
entertaining Baron Puck, and his first appearance  
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## Extracts.

**RHYME OF THE RAIL.**  
Swee through the forest,  
Riding over ridges,  
Screaming under rocks,  
Bumbling over bridges;  
Whizzing through the mountains,  
Screaming over the hills,  
Mousing on the plains,  
Riding on the rail.

Men of different nations  
In the eye of the sun,  
Here we are, friendly,  
Coming to the same;  
High and lonely people,  
Birds of every feather,  
On a common level  
Traveling together.

Gentlemen in shorts  
Leaving very tall,  
Gentlemen at large,  
Leaving very small;  
Gentlemen in lights,  
With a loose white collar,  
Gentlemen in grey,  
Looking rather green.

Ancient ladies lady,  
Aimlessly remarks.

That there must be peril

Moving so many spurs;

Riding to the salverager,

Says it's his opinion

She is out of danger.

Madam, woman, general

Of the present century,

Keeling eyes are rare,

Lightly riding her basket;

Feeling this a smash;

If it came, would surely

Send her eyes to pot

Madame prematurely.

Singing through the forest,

Riding over ridges,

Shouting under rocks,

Bumbling over bridges;

Whizzing through the mountains,

Screaming over the hills,

Mousing on the plains,

Riding on the rail.

JOHN GODFREY SAE.

## WHY THE LIONS DID NOT EAT DANIEL.

The writer of European gossip in the *Pioneer* tells the following story:—These Moors, despite the neighbourhood of Algeria, are nearly as absolute and barbaric as ever. I do not know if Mouli *Elasse* throws his delinquent subjects to wild beasts; but a story is told of his predecessor of a factious and very cruel memory. An evangelical missionary once penetrated to his palace, and preached to him the merits of Christianity, as proved by the miracles of our sacred books. Amongst other things, the pious man related to the Sultan the history of Daniel in the lion's den. He listened carefully to the rental, and then said, with a malicious grin: "I act nothing wonderful in this story. The flesh of Jews is so vile, that the beasts did not eat it to sati. I shall show you how superior is the flesh of a Mussulman." And, thereupon, he ordered two malefactors to be taken forth and thrust into the cage of one of his lions. When the bearer of his orders returned to his presence, he asked what the lions did to the men thrown to them. "They made but a mouthful of them" was the reply. "You see," said the Sultan, turning to the missionary, "how infinitely superior the flesh of a Mussulman must be to that of unclean Jews."

## MODERN LEPROSY.

The general facts about leprosy seem to be that it is a disease of a slowly contagious character and naturally of a very protracted duration, lasting from eight to nine to fifteen or twenty years, and that it is chiefly prevalent among the poorer classes, and especially among such as subsist upon scanty or unwholesome food. In many of its forms it reveals itself by some disfigurement of the features, so that it is readily recognised by ordinary observers, and its slow progress is attended by loathsome sores and loss of the fingers and toes, which gradually perish and drop off. As in Judas, it is the custom of the country—at least, among the poor, who furnish the great majority of the cases—to expose lepers from their homes and from society as soon as the nature of their complaint is discovered, and to look upon it as a valid ground for the disruption of all domestic ties. The husband drives away his wife, or the father his children, and takes no further thought for their welfare or subsistence. They become outcasts, exposed to all infelicities of weather and to all extremities of want, and supported, if such a word can be used, by food or money which is exposed for them by the charitable, and which they may only take after the giver has departed, or by such roots and natural produce as they can obtain for themselves in the jungles. In Bombay there are two establishments into which lepers are received—one the name of the Dharmasala, named after the late Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy; the other the ward for incurables which is attached to the Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital. The latter not only contains thirty male lepers but provides them with proper hospital accommodation and careful medical treatment; while the Dharmasala contains 120 lepers of both sexes, who are better off than they would be as wandering outcasts, but who are crowded together in distance of all hygienic considerations. It is proposed to estimate the relation between the evil and the provision thus made for its relief; it must be remembered that the known lepers in the Bombay Presidency exceeded 11,000 in number in 1873, and that the number in the whole Indian peninsula is supposed to be not less than 100,000. Their condition may be fairly estimated from a narrative extracted from a letter in the *Times of India*. The writer says of a leper whom he had lately seen:—"He was the servant of a Brahmin landowner in the *Coucan*, and, while present at a marriage festival, was noticed to have some (leprosy) thickening of the eye and face. Thereupon the people insisted on his leaving the village, his wife and child left him, and he took refuge in a field but once belonging to some wandering *Kaboot*. At first he was even venturing near the outlying dwellings to beg for a little food. He ate such fruit as was procurable, and possessing as little as the sum of eight annas, he expended that in buying from the young crows fragments of their meals. Finally he left the locality and reached Bombay. Contrary to what is usual this man was in fair bodily condition, and able to work, but no one in Bombay would employ him." When such misery as this is multiplied by 10,000 in the actual present, and provided for its own indefinite multiplication in the future, it surely assumes dimensions which call as much for the consideration of the statesman as for that of the philanthropist. In the Middle Ages leprosy was not uncommon in Europe, but, there, to use the phrase which has recently become current, it was "stamped out" by repressive legislation. Lepers were strictly confined within specified limits, and were killed without mercy if they transgressed them. It was the deliberate design of one who preferred pleasure to exile with a sweet smile, and bowed with infinite grace to a croucher who before nightfall was on the road to prison. "In dispensing," he says, "with the exact observance of the precepts, we do not violate them; for the language of such instruments is not to be understood literally. We must employ in our treatise a conventional phraseology, just as we use complimentary expressions in society. They are indispensable to our intercourse with one another, but they always mean much less than they say." Louis' unfeigned powers were good, but not extraordinary. 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